

the user may select from update components not installed as well as update components already installed;

receive one or more selected update components; and

install one or more selected update components.

**24.** The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the list of available updates is generated as each new update is published.

**25.** The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the special placeholder is a blank space, an icon, or a text message to the user.

**26.** The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the special placeholder is displayed in a color different from that used for installed update components.

**27.** The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the special placeholder is displayed in a font different from that used for installed update components.

**28.** A computer implemented method, comprising:

obtaining a plurality of manifest files, each manifest file containing information corresponding to one or more components; and

displaying information contained in each manifest file in a dual-list format, wherein: a first list displays a component name for each component listed in each manifest file, including components installed and not installed on the computer; a second list displays the component name for each component of the first list that is installed on the computer; and the component names in the first list are displayed aligned with the component names in the second list such that the component name of each installed component that appears in the first list is displayed aligned with the component name of the same installed component on the second list.

**29.** The method of claim 28, wherein each manifest file is associated with an installed product on the computer.

**30.** The method of claim 28, wherein one or more manifest files are associated with marketing materials available for download.

**31.** The method of claim 30, wherein the marketing materials include marketing announcements, new products, free products, or trial products.

**32.** The method of claim 28, wherein the first list and the second list are displayed in a hierarchical structure in which component names identified with a first installed product are displayed together and that component names identified with a second installed product are displayed together, but the component names associated with both the first installed product and the second installed product are displayed together, separate from the component names associated solely with either the first or second installed products, and the component names associated with the first installed product are displayed separate from the component names associated with the second installed product.

**33.** A computer implemented method, comprising:

identifying one or more installed products on the computer;

obtaining one or more manifest files, wherein each manifest file is associated with one installed product and each manifest file contains information relating to one or more components of the corresponding installed product; and

displaying information contained in each manifest file in a dual-list format, wherein:

a first list displays a component name for each component listed in each manifest file, including components installed and not installed on the computer; a second list displays the component name for each component of the first list that is installed on the computer; and the component names in the first list are displayed aligned with the component names in the second list such that the component name of each installed component that appears in the first list is displayed aligned with the component name of the same installed component on the second list.

**34.** The method of claim 33, wherein the first list and the second list are displayed in a hierarchical structure in which component names identified with a first installed product are displayed together and that component names identified with a second installed product are displayed together, but the component names associated with both the first installed product and the second installed product are displayed together, separate from the component names associated solely with either the first or second installed products, and the component names associated with the first installed product are displayed separate from the component names associated with the second installed product.

**35.** A computer implemented method, comprising:

receiving a first list of available update components;

displaying the first list of available update components;

creating a second list of installed update components by identifying one or more target files, wherein each update component is associated with a single target file;

displaying the second list of installed update components, wherein the second list of installed update components is displayed adjacent to the first list of available update components, such that each item in the list of available update components is aligned with either the identical item in the second list of installed update components, if the component is installed, or a special placeholder, if the component is not installed;

having the user select one or more update components from the list of available update components, wherein the user may select from update components not installed as well as update components already installed;

receiving one or more selected update components; and

installing one or more selected update components.

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